

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-38 (canceled)

39. (Currently Amended) A method for inhibiting the loss of learning ability or increasing the learning ability of an aged companion pet in need of such treatment comprising feeding the pet a composition comprising: (i) a mixture of antioxidants at levels sufficient to accomplish the said inhibiting or increasing, the mixture of antioxidants comprising at least about 100 ppm Vitamin E, at least about 50 ppm Vitamin C, and from 25 to 600 ppm alpha lipoic acid; and at least one antioxidant selected from the group consisting of alpha lipoic acid, L-carnitine and mixtures thereof, (ii) a source of protein; and (iii) a source of fiber.

Claims 40-43 (Canceled)

44. (Previously Presented) The method in accordance with claim 39 wherein the aged companion pet is a canine and is fed a mixture of Vitamin E, Vitamin C, alpha lipoic acid, and L-carnitine.

45. (Previously Presented) The method in accordance with claim 39 wherein the aged companion pet is a feline and is fed a mixture of Vitamin E, Vitamin C, and L-carnitine.

46. (Previously Presented) The method in accordance with claim 44 wherein Vitamin E is fed to the canine in at least about 100 ppm, Vitamin C is fed to the canine in at least about 50 ppm, alpha lipoic acid is fed to the canine in at least about 25 ppm, and L-carnitine is fed to the canine in at least about 50 ppm, all levels measured by a diet fed to the canine.

47. (Previously Presented) The method in accordance with claim 45 wherein Vitamin E is fed to the feline in at least about 100 ppm, Vitamin C is fed to the feline in at least about 50 ppm and L-carnitine is fed to the feline in at least about 50 ppm, all levels as measured by a diet fed to the feline.